

NZ Masters Athletics Incorporated Board Meeting



Minutes of the Board meeting held on Sunday 28 October 2018

3 Queens Wharf, Wellington commencing at 9.05am

Present: Andrew Stark (AS) (President), Chris Thompson (CT) (Vice-President), Stewart Foster (SF) (Secretary/Treasurer), Ian Carter (IC), Derek Shaw (DS) and Michael Wray (MW).

Apologies: John Campbell (JC), Stewart Foster (SF) for lateness

1. Welcome:

The President welcomed members to the meeting and indicated that due to the flight schedule from Hamilton S Foster wasn't expected until approximately 10am.

2. Minutes of the previous Board meeting held on 23 June 2018.

That the minutes of the Board meeting held on 23 June 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

A Stark / I Carter

Carried

3. Matters arising:

AS reported that the online banking had been set up but CT does not yet have the ability to authorise. Moving to a Xero accounting system is under investigation.

4. Presidents Report:

AS spoke to his tabled report and indicated it had been a relatively quiet period since the June meeting, mainly due to his other commitments in respect to Athletics Canterbury and the new track and field facilities at Nga Puna Wai. The main areas he has dealing with include:

- **Website:** Has done some work on updating Centre contacts and sending out an e-news.
- **SI Masters T&F Championships:** 54 entries so far. May suggest to Dwight Grieve that they consider waiving the late fee and try some additional promotion. He has had discussions with Terry Lomax regarding the idea of combining the ANZ SI Championships with the SI Masters T&F Championships in future. Issue of scheduling as the ANZ SI champs are currently scheduled for mid-December while the SI Masters Champs are usually a month earlier. It would help ensure that we have officials. T Lomax indicated that the SI champs were aimed at post secondary athletes. AS will discuss the idea further with T Lomax when in Invercargill.
- **NZMA T&F championships:** Has held a LOC meeting with the Mid-South Canterbury Sub-centre including who is doing what such as funding applications. Getting enough officials will be a major challenge. He is collecting information on medal options and

costs. He has also added the entry information from the 2018 champs into his database to help with fine tuning the scheduling and divisions for the field events.

- **Oceania Masters Athletics (OMA):** AS and SF will be attending the OMA Council meeting and AGM on Gold Coast on 7-8 November 2018. Discussion items include finalising the programme for OMA Champs in Mackay, going over strategic plan and other documentation, how the champs operate when in the islands every third year, plus deciding who does what going forward given that Lynne and Bob Schickert are stepping down.
- **Oceania Throws Pentathlon Challenge:** The final set of results were due on Friday but he had not seen them so still a work in progress.
- **Athletics NZ Regulations:** Request from Rod Syme (ANZ Rules Committee) to look at the potential changes that affect masters and make a submission.
- **NZMA database:** Created the *Vetline* mailing list.
- **ANZ Club Connect / NZ Cross Country Champs:** Attended both these representing NZMA and Athletics Canterbury. He sees that Wellington has a challenge next year to find a non-muddy course.
- **NZMA logo:** Has had a redesign done of our logo to reflect correct name of New Zealand Masters Athletics. Looking to use this in a redesign of a new generic NZMA medal.
- **Job descriptions:** No further progress.

That the President's Report be received. A Stark / D Shaw Carried

5. Website:

Our website template is rather complicated with several widgets. MW has been tinkering with it including taking down some old dated material and replacing information on WMA champs in Malaga with Torun. AS and MW to look at updating the website over the winter.

6. ANZ Regulations:

AS tabled copies of the document from Rod Syme (Convener of the ANZ Rules Committee) on the three proposed amendments to the ANZ Competition Regulations. Following discussion the Board agreed to make a submission in support of the proposed changes. These were:

- i. Adjustments to some age grades and distances in NZ Cross Country and Road Champs.
Changing U13 (2km) and U15 (3km) age grades in NZ X/C and Road Champs to U14 (3km) and U16 (4km). The distance for WU18 age grade at NZ X/C Champs be increased from 4km to 5km (as at NZ Road Champs as it would now cater for only 16 and 17 year olds).

- ii. Change Masters Women's NZ Championships categories to align with Masters Men's NZ Championships for Road, Cross Country, Half Marathon, Marathon, Trail, Mountain and Long Distance Race Walking ie MW 35-49 and MW50+. Plus a new MW 50+ grade to be introduced for the NZ Road Relay Champs using the same course as the Open Masters 60+ grade. The current Open Masters 50+ grade would change to MM50+.
- iii. That any Masters age athlete who places in the first three overall in the NZ Half Marathon or Marathon Champs be recognised in both senior and masters categories if both events are held simultaneously within the same race.

The Board agreed to support all three proposed amendments. In terms of the third proposals it was felt that the senior grade could be referred to as an "open" grade and that it should also apply to masters grades in the mountain running and trail running champs when it is same race with same start and distance. It was also agreed to suggest an additional reason for the third proposed amendment in that it rewards the best athlete on the day ie rewards excellence. MW to convey the Boards views to the ANZ Rules Committee.

DS suggested that we float the idea of M65+ Centre team competitions for the NZ X/C and Road Champs, perhaps with 3 person teams, at next year's Club Connect. MW and DS to investigate this further and prepare a proposal.

7. Merchandise:

CT spoke to his pre-circulated report. He reported that the Westpac account has been closed and the \$4814 transferred to the ANZ account. The merchandise profit for 2017/18 year was \$1314 compared with a loss of \$616 in the previous year. He has the 59 stock items on a spreadsheet. On-line shop is now in place on the website. Orders can still be made direct to CT. He is still sorting out being able to see the account on-line to check for payments. He had a sample of a relatively light jacket from LENCO in West Auckland that is available in a range of sizes and colours. CT also looking into a dress jacket for uniform and podium use. It was reported that 2XU in Tauranga is the new ANZ supplier, CT will investigate their options. Other possible items are a polar top and sweatshirt. There are still issues with the women's crop top and singlet with respect to sizing and design/shaping.

8. Athlete of the Year Awards:

MW has compiled a spreadsheet of potential candidates with a few to add from the NZ Road Relay champs and upcoming SI and NI champs. Still important to encourage nominations from Centres as they help provide coverage from other events such as overseas marathons and inter-club events.

In terms of colours it was agreed that performances with illegal wind levels were not eligible. CT indicated that we may need to bear in mind adjusting the age %'s for throwers especially of older age groups.

SF joined the meeting at 10.10am.

9. Secretary's Report:

SF indicated that the processing and checking of the 51 NZ entries for WMA champs in Malaga was a major undertaking. The value of the Centre databases is proving to be critical in ensuring that only bona-fide entries are approved. The need for entrants to obtain a 7000 series number enables the Centres to make contact with them. The administration levy (€510) has not yet been received.

The database has now been set up for the WMA Indoor champs in Torun, Poland and SF has received the password and can now accept entries.

The notice of the AGM in March 2019 to be forwarded to Centres during the first week in December 2018.

That the Secretary's Report be received. S Foster / C Thompson Carried

10. Treasurer's Report:

The draft annual accounts were completed in the first week of September and have been forwarded for review. AS noted that there was an operating surplus for the year of \$3693 and that member's funds now stood at \$82,328. SF reported that a relatively small number of NZMA subs are in so far. Authority for disclosure to Xero was processed on 10 September and copies sent to Anna McNabb (Athletics Canterbury accountant). SF raised the possible high monthly Xero fees and others thoughts there could be a cheaper version. AS indicated that he would check with Anna.

That the Treasurer's Report be received. S Foster / M Wray Carried

11. NZMA Track & Field Champs:

AS is sorting accommodation in Timaru for the Board. It was agreed to keep the fees the same as for the 2018 champs. DS raised the possibility of bus options between Christchurch and Timaru to make it easier and more appealing for entrants from Tasman and North Island to attend – perhaps a charter bus and/or regular services such as those provided by Intercity – and these could be promoted on the website.

AS reported that he has looking into a new generic medal design. One with no plastic inserts to change. LOC's could change the two colour ribbons to Centre colours and screen print on to the ribbons the event, date and location. He suggested that NZMA could bulk buy medals for say 3 years ahead but will check first with Centres hosting the 2020 and 2021 NZMA

championships. LOC's would be responsible for buying the ribbons. He has obtained quotes from Graeme Seatter, Barclays and Emblems NZ.

A funding application prepared by the Mid-South Canterbury Athletics Sub-Centre (joint LOC) will be lodged with the Aoraki Trust in November to cover many expenses. The outcome is expected by December. Canterbury Masters are most likely to apply for an accommodation grant on behalf of NZMA, as their applications with NZCT have always been successful. AS to advertise for key officials to attend Timaru and offer an accommodation assistance, provided they stay at nominated motels.

12. Constitution:

CT and DS spoke to their paper on Potential Changes to the NZMA Constitution. These changes if adopted at the next AGM would enable the Board to determine the office holders from amongst those elected to the Board at the AGM and for the Board to have the ability to co-opt members onto the Board. The paper proposed replacing the current clause 9.1 with a new clause to enable the Board to elect the office holders and some consequential and tidying up amendments. A new clause 10.7 was proposed to enable the Board to co-opt members to the Board.

After discussion the Board agreed on some wording refinements to the proposed changes to 9.1 and the new 10.7 clause as below, and agreed to put these forward along with various consequential and tidying up amendments for consideration at the 2019 AGM.

"9.1 The Board shall consist of up to eight (8) members. The Board shall elect from among themselves a President, Vice-President, Secretary, and a Treasurer. The Board has the discretion to combine the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. The President shall chair the General Meetings of the Association."

"10.7 If a position or positions on the Board become vacant or remains vacant after the AGM, the Board may co-opt an additional member or members. In the co-opting process the Board will consider whether there are some skills and /or specialist knowledge missing amongst the existing Board members and look to fill any such gap or gaps."

That the proposed changes to the NZMA Constitution to provide for the Board to determine the office holders and to have the ability to co-opt members onto the Board be approved by the Board and put to the 2019 AGM of the Association for consideration.

C Thompson / D Shaw

Carried

DS agreed to rework the paper with an introduction and explanation and an easier way to distinguish between the existing clauses and the proposed changes and to supply this to SF to circulate to the Centres with the notice of the AGM. It was also agreed that the proposed changes be posted on the website and published in the January *Vetline*.

13. Website, NZMA Database and Clubnet:

MW spoke to his report on Clubnet and indicated that both NI and SI Masters T&F champs events were live and was planning to finalise and set live the NZMA T&F champs event in early December. These use email address for entrants and only need to use 4-figure NZMA number when entering WMA and OMA events outside Oceania. The shop function on the website was being used to singlets/shirts, *Vetline* subscriptions, SI champs extras and entries to Oceania Throws. Every 1-2 weeks he sends a spreadsheet to SF tracking the Clubnet settlements and a breakdown of income and what share should be accrued to Southland and Wellington for the SI and NI champs. His report provided an event summary for the NI and SI champs with information on total value, gender split, number of entrants and average age and value. He will create a settlement agreement after entries close.

He has still to update membership status from centre returns and 'release' the ability for people to sign-up directly with NZMA as well as through their centres.

In terms of the Facebook page MW indicated that he taken this over from JC and has opened it up to allow visitors to post and comment and added both the SI and NI events and shared them with relevant people and athletics pages. Has 313 subscribers currently.

In terms of the website he had retired some old news, updated the ticker to next NZMA champs, added link to WMA indoor champs in Torun, updated events page to bring them up to date and added OMA Champs, 10000m Champs, WMA Indoor Champs, and Oceania Throws. Records are updated regularly and he recently received the wind readings for Malaga so these are now fully updated. He raised a question of a record performance by a NZ athlete at the Pan Pacific Games with no signed evidence. It was agreed that we stick to the policy of requiring signed evidence from such events.

Has still to update Colours Awards page, continue to get to grips with the eccentricities of the template, and to create and promote event for 10000m Champs in Auckland. He indicated that Gareth Archer, before he left ANZ, had agreed that the 10000m Champs would be a joint ANZ and NZMA event.

14. NZMA Indoor Champs:

CT spoke to his pre-circulated report and indicated that with 60 competitors (including four from Australia) it was the largest so far, with largest number of 28 being for the indoor shot put. The increased numbers were in the throws events helped by the addition of the two outdoor throws – the weight throw and hammer. The one and half days worked well. The intention to present gold medals was dropped to avoid a cost blowout. Will revisit this for next year's champs. Many new NZMA indoor records and first up best performances were achieved. Is hoping that the full results will be published in *Vetline* next year. The possible development of an indoor facility in Hastings raises the possibility of an alternative venue or additional event.

15. Vetline:

DS spoke to his pre-circulated report which included his suggested guidelines for publication of results in Vetline following JC raising the issue via email. There was general agreement that we should try and include full results for the NZMA championships events – namely NZMA, SI, NI, and Indoor T&F champs – plus OMA champs, along with full NZ results at WMA champs and the medallists in the master's age groups at ANZ run champs. There was discussion on whether or not we should look to include the full results from the Australian Masters champs but when it was pointed out that these can be up to 44 pages it was agreed that this was not possible.

It was pointed out that quite a few of the Centre contacts have changed recently so there is a need to update these for the January 2019 issue. There was also a suggestion that the cover could occasionally involve multiple images.

16. WMA Athletes of the Year:

Several Board members had received a request to consider nominating NZ athletes for the overall male and female athlete of the year awards. MW had responded to the request.

17. Non-stadia Events:

MW reported that the 2019 NZ Mountain Running Champs were to be held in Wainuiomata on 13 April 2019 and that a possible new venue in Wellington is being investigated for the 2019 NZ Cross Country Champs.

18. Preparation for AGM:

The NZMA AGM will be held on Friday 1 March 2019 starting at midday in the Cricket Pavilion at Aorangi Park, in Timaru.

The Board reviewed the current registration fees and *Vetline* subscriptions rates and agreed to recommend to the AGM that the current rates continue for the 2019/20 year. The Board also decided that the NZMA Board Secretary and Treasurer roles continue to be combined for 2019/20.

That the Board recommends to the NZMA AGM that the registration fees for 2019/20 continue to be \$60 for a NZMA Competitive member and \$45 for a NZMA Social member. No NZMA fees for Athletics NZ Competitive club members, as per the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NZMA and Athletics NZ.

S Foster / D Shaw

Carried

That the positions of Secretary and Treasurer continue to be combined for 2019/20.

I Carter / M Wray

Carried

19. Next meeting:

The next Board meeting will be held on Thursday 28 February 2019 with time and venue to be confirmed. Meeting closed at 3.20pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

AS Stark (President)

Date: